

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph **[0042]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0042] Crosslinking agents are typically compounds having at least two functional groups that are selected from a halogen group, carbonyl group, epoxy group, ester group, acid anhydride group, ~~acid~~ acid halide group, isocyanate group, vinyl group, and chloroformate group. The crosslinking agent may be attached to the carbon backbone or to the pendant nitrogen of the amine polymer. Examples of ~~crosslinked~~ crosslinking agents that are suitable for synthesis of the polymers of the present invention include, but are not limited to, the crosslinkers shown in Table 2.